FILED
Clerk
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For The Northern Mariana Islands
By_______
(Deputy Clerk)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ANGELO M. LABORCE,) Civil No. 05-0036
Plaintiff)
v. S-WON, INC.; P&S, INC.; YOUNG KYUN KIM; JOHN GERALD PANGELINAN; DANIEL MUNA QUITUGUA; DARRELL MUNA QUITUGUA; and, JOE CRISOSTOMO, Defendants) ORDER DENYING) DEFENDANT DARREL) M. QUITUGUA'S MOTION) TO DISMISS OR, IN THE) ALTERNATIVE, FOR) SUMMARY JUDGMENT))
	_)

THIS MATTER is before the court on the motion of pro se defendant Darrel Muna Quitugua's motion to dismiss the complaint against him or, in the alternative, for entry of summary judgment in his favor. By order dated January 26, 2006, the court indicated it would decide the motion without oral argument.

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Defendant Darrel Quitugua's motion to dismiss or, in the alternative, for summary judgment is denied, for the following reasons.

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8 requires only a "short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief." The Rule contains "a powerful presumption against rejecting pleadings for failure to state a claim." Auster Oil & Gas, Inc. v. Stream, 764 F.2d 381, 386 (5th Cir. 1985). A motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted will succeed only if from the complaint it appears beyond doubt that plaintiffs can prove no set of facts in support of their claim that would entitle them to relief. Morley v. Walker, 175 F.3d 756, 759 (9th Cir. 1999) (emphasis added). All allegations of material fact are taken as true and construed in the light most favorable to the non-moving party. Enesco Corp. v. Price/Costco, Inc., 146 F.3d 1083, 1085 (9th Cir. 1998).

Accepting the allegations of the complaint as true, the court finds that plaintiff has properly pleaded causes of action for assault and battery and intentional infliction of emotion distress against this defendant. See, for assault and battery, 6 N.Mar.I. Code § 1202(a), Restatement (Second) of Torts § 16, and 7 N.Mar.I. Code § 3401, and, for intentional infliction of emotional distress, Restatement (Second) of Torts § 46, and 7 N.Mar.I. Code § 3401.

Defendant's incarceration, indigent status, and claim that he did not fire the

gun which allegedly injured plaintiff during the armed robbery are irrelevant to the issue before the court on this motion.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this 14th day of February, 2006.

ALEX R. MUNSON
Judge